

Message Text

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R 222135Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 103857

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, UG

SUBJECT: UGANDA: FURTHER CONGRESSIONAL SESSION SCHEDULED

1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED THAT THERE WILL BE A PUBLIC SESSION OF THE THREE HIRC SUBCOMMITTEES TO CONSIDER PENDING LEGISLATION ON UGANDA. THE SESSION WILL PROBABLY FOCUS ON THE NON-BINDING RESOLUTIONS BEFORE ADDRESSING THE PEASE BILLS WHICH IMPOSE BINDING ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. IT IS UNCERTAIN THAT THIS SESSION WILL RESULT IN THE MARK-UP OF ANY OF THE LEGISLATION AT THIS TIME. ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE TO THE PENDING LEGISLATION IS BEING DEVELOPED BY THE STAFFS OF OTHER SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS WHICH MAY BE INTRODUCED FOR CONSIDERATION.

2. WHILE THIS SESSION IS NOT EXPECTED TO RESULT IN ANY MAJOR ACCELERATION OF ACTION ON THIS LEGISLATION, CONGRESSIONAL ATTENTION TO UGANDA HAS INCREASED WITH THE
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COMPLETION OF ACTION OF THE FOREIGN AID BILL IN THE HOUSE AND PANAMA CANAL TREATY IN THE SENATE. THE HOSTILE CLIMATE TOWARD THE AMIN REGIME WILL LIKELY BE HEIGHTENED BY THE WIRE SERVICE REPORT OF APRIL 20 ABOUT THE RANDOM KILLING OF SEVERAL UGANDANS BY THE BODYGUARDS OF VICE PRESIDENT ADRISSI FOLLOWING AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT IN WHICH ADRISSI WAS SERIOUSLY INJURED.

3. ON A RELATED SUBJECT, WE HAVE YET TO RECEIVE FROM THE FRG EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON THE IBM BALL AND FORMS TO FACILITATE THE TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGES TO THE FRG EMBASSY IN KAMPALA THROUGH THEIR ANALOGUE IN WASHINGTON AS AGREED DURING THE HENNEMEYER MISSION IN JANUARY. THE RESPONSIBLE FRG EMBASSY OFFICIAL SAYS THAT HE IS YET TO RECEIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR THIS PROCEDURE FROM HIS FOREIGN OFFICE AND SUGGESTED THAT THE QUESTION BE RAISED AGAIN BY BONN. HE WILL MAKE SIMILAR INQUIRIES THROUGH HIS CHANNELS.

4. REQUEST THAT EMBASSY DISCUSS FOREGOING WITH FRG FOREIGN OFFICE THEREBY PERMITTING THEM TO NOTIFY THEIR EMBASSY IN KAMPALA OF THE RENEWED FOCUS ON UGANDA WHICH MAY DEVELOP. FYI - ANOTHER FACTOR WHICH ADDS TO THE HOSTILE U.S. CLIMATE TOWARD EGREGIOUS VIOLATORS OF HUMAN RIGHTS SUCH AS AMIN IS THE TELEVISION SERIES "HOLOCAUST" ON NAZI ATROCITIES AGAINST JEWS, WHICH HAS JUST APPEARED ON NATIONWIDE TV. WE LEAVE IT TO YOUR DISCRETION WHETHER THIS FACTOR CAN BE ALLUDED TO .
END FYI.
CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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